CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND WESTERN AESTHETICS

Thorsten Botz-Bornstein

Conference “Methodologies of Comparative Philosophy and Chinese Philosophy in a Global Context, Peking University, 24 May 2026

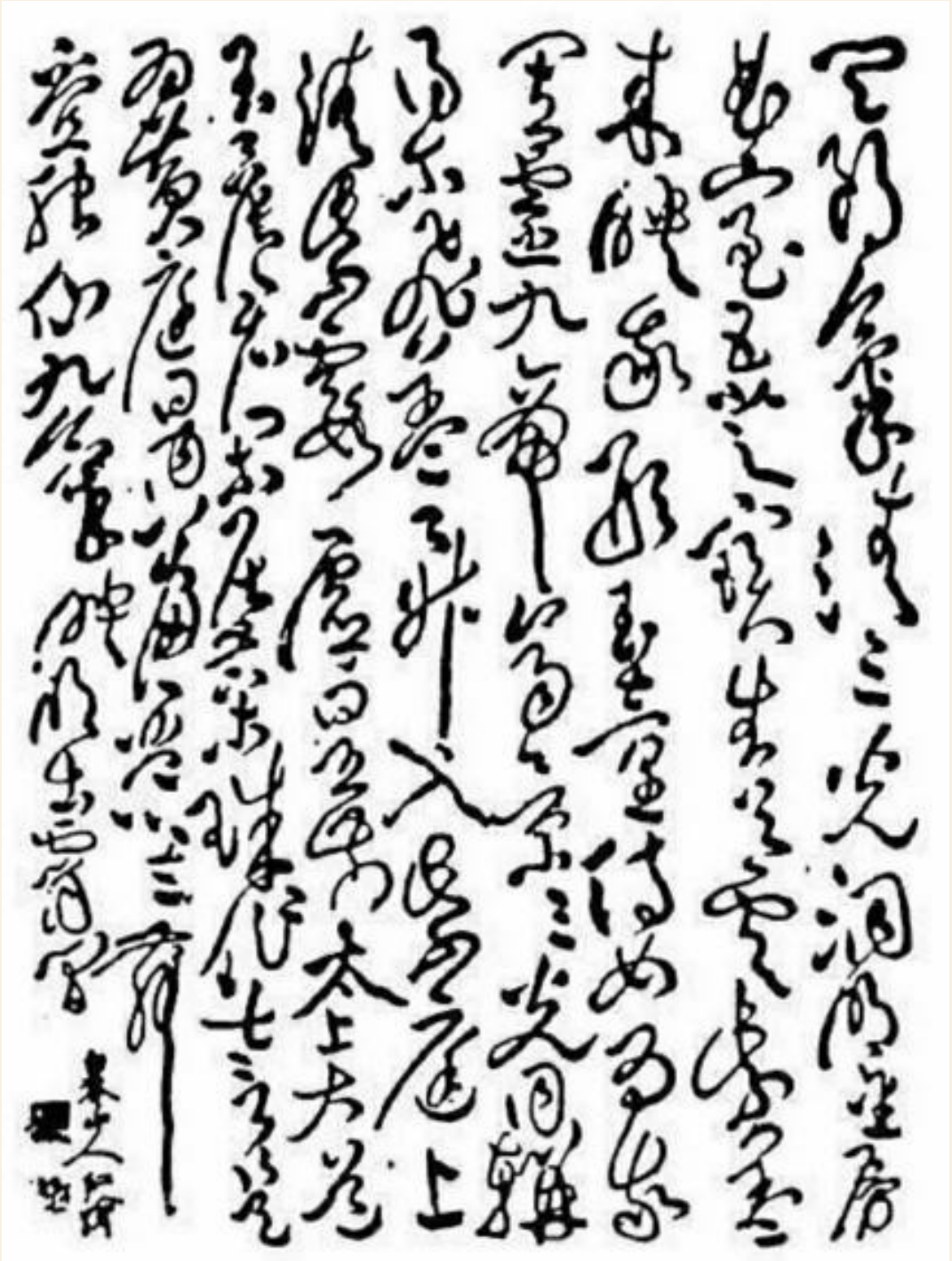
IN CHINA AND JAPAN

"Joys of the Fisherman", Wang Fu 1410

2

THE LATE NORTHERN SUNG PAINTER LI KUNG-LIN

HENRI MICHAUX



Henri
Michaud

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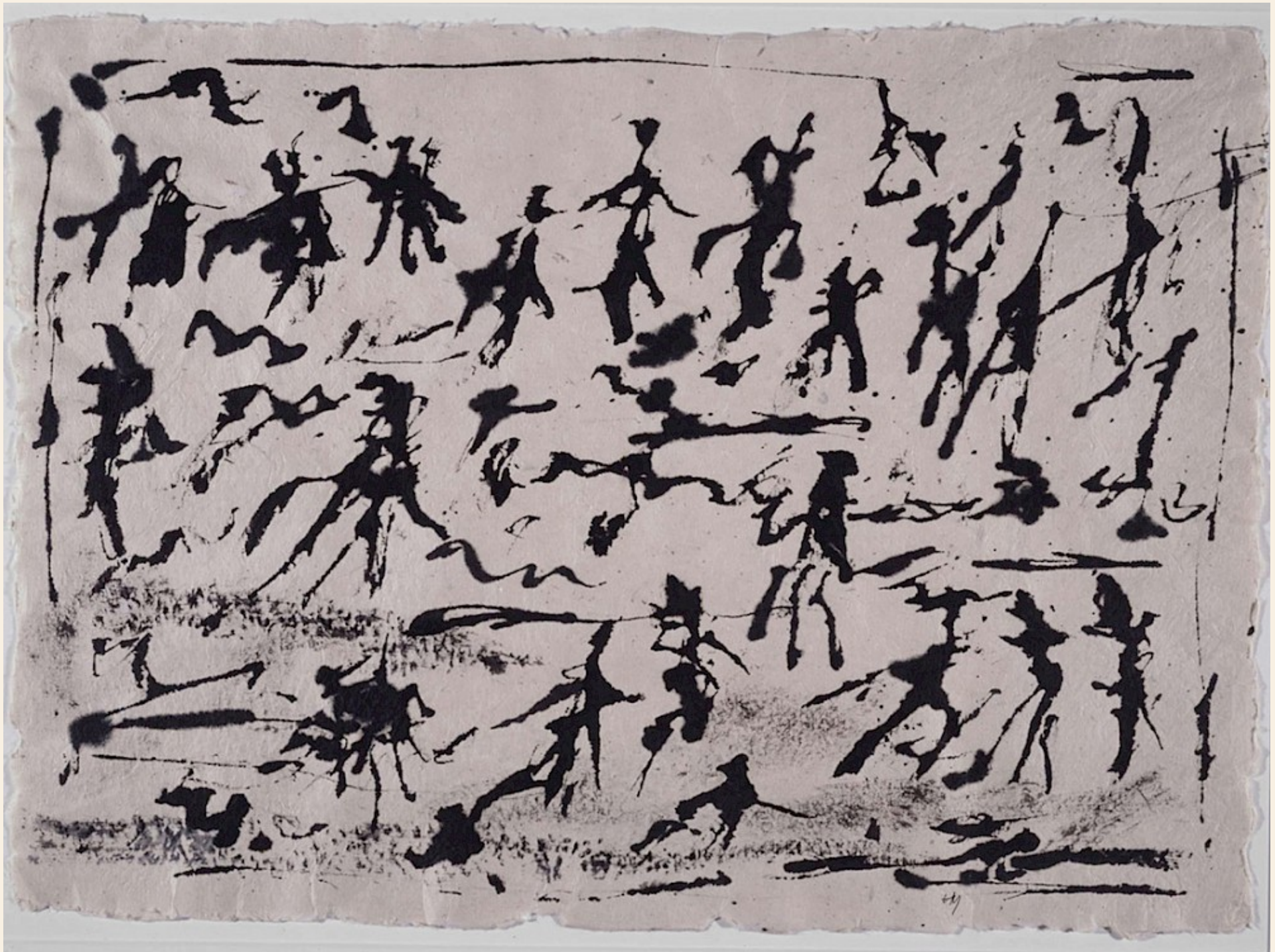

Henri Michaud

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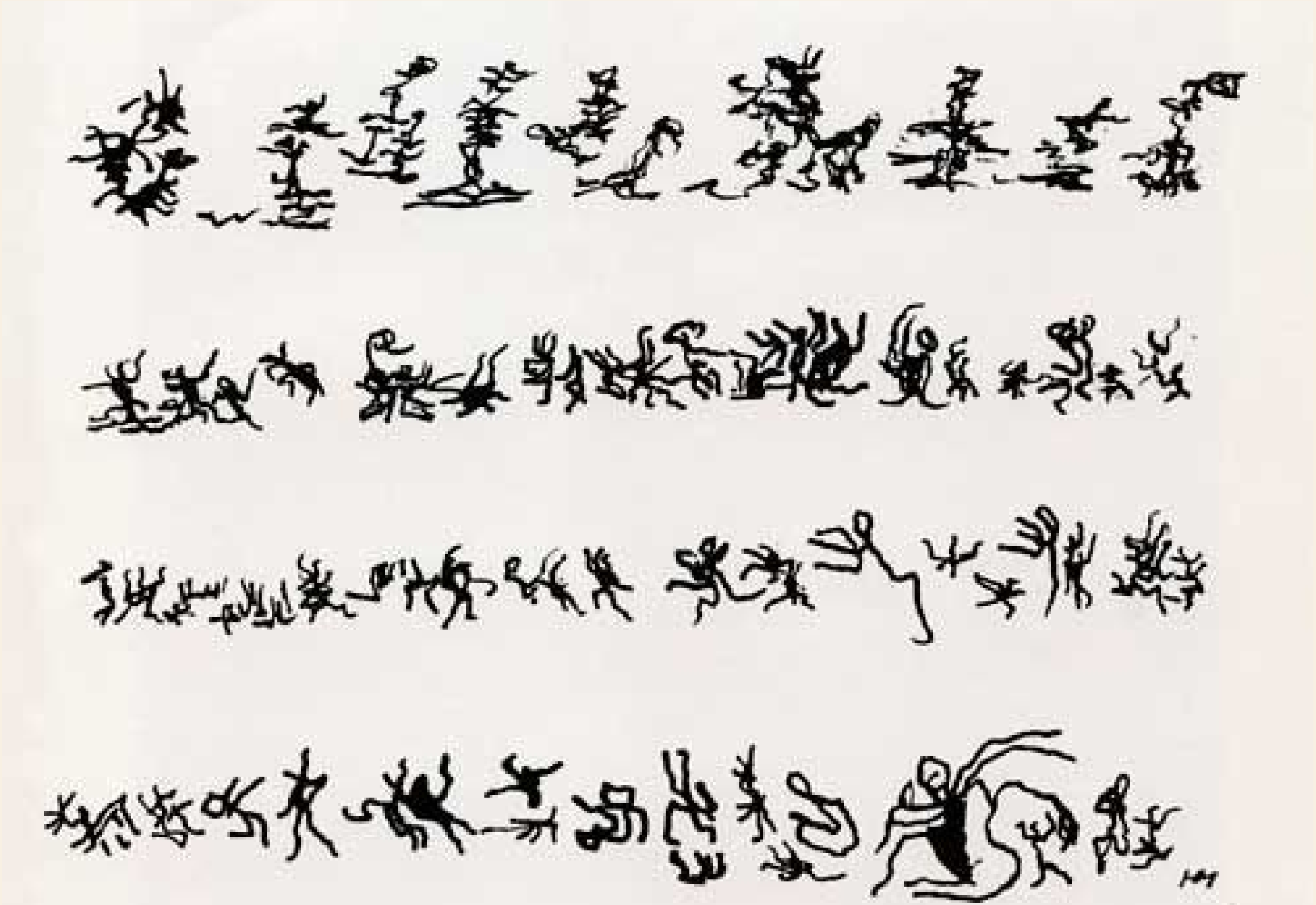

Henri Michaud

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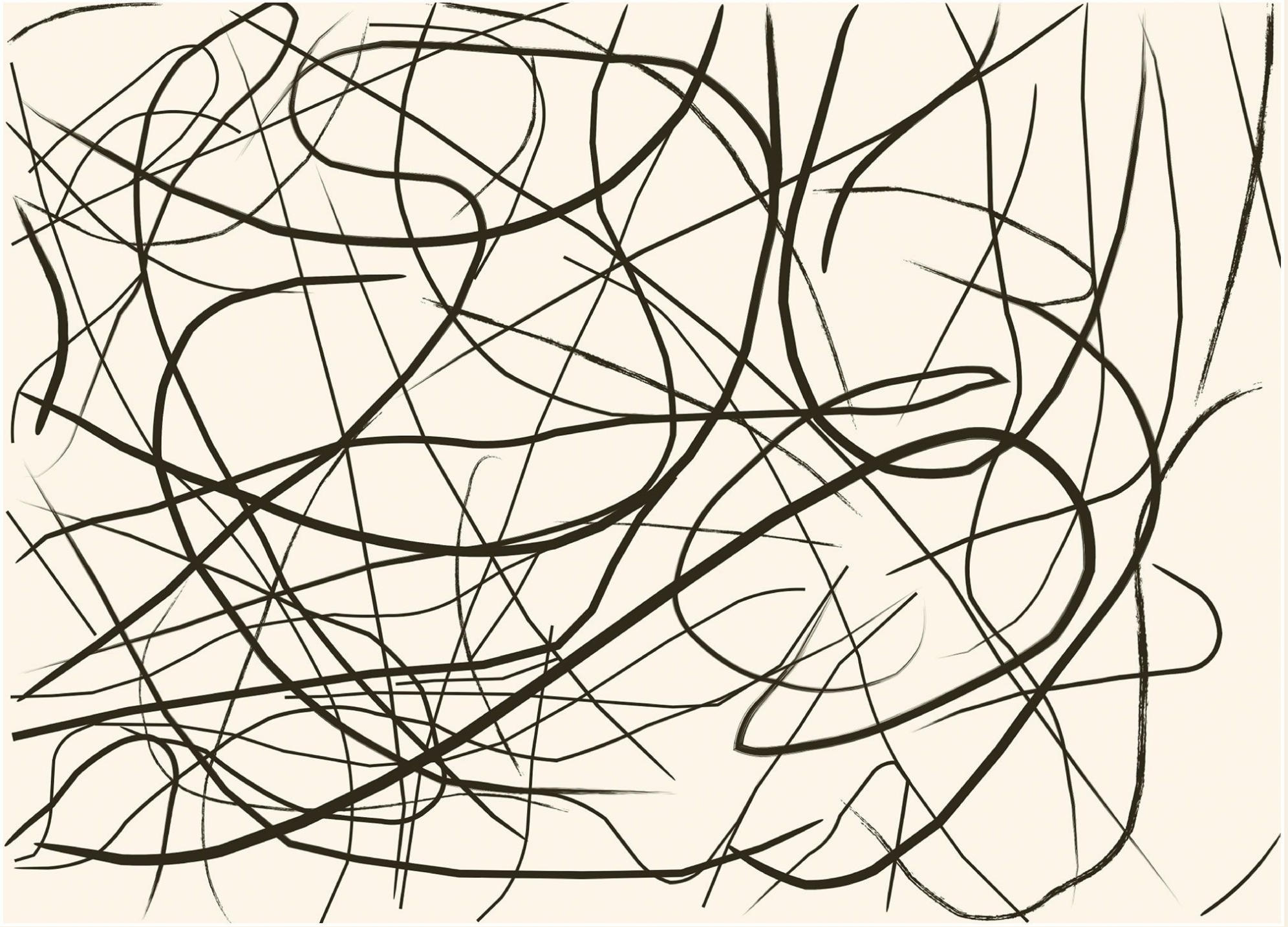
MASSON, DUBUFFET, POLLOCK, ALECHINSKY



Jackson Pollock
Number 14 Gray (1948)

André Masson
automatic
drawing 1924

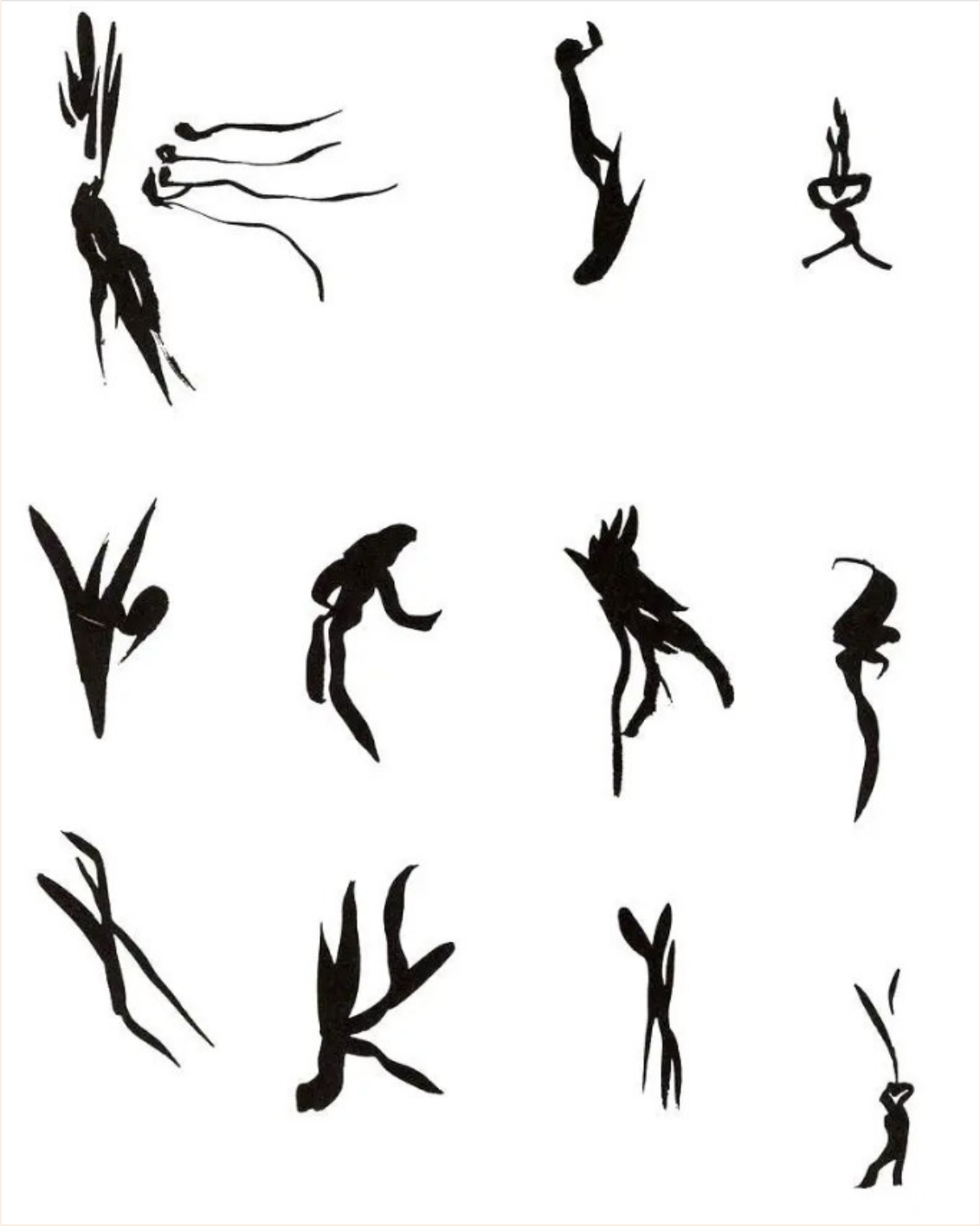
Dubuffet
fluence
1984

Dubuffet,
Recits

Pierre Alechinsky
Bird's Eye View of the Sea 1967

HOW DOES MICHAUX MANAGE TO ENTER THE WORLD OF LINES?

7



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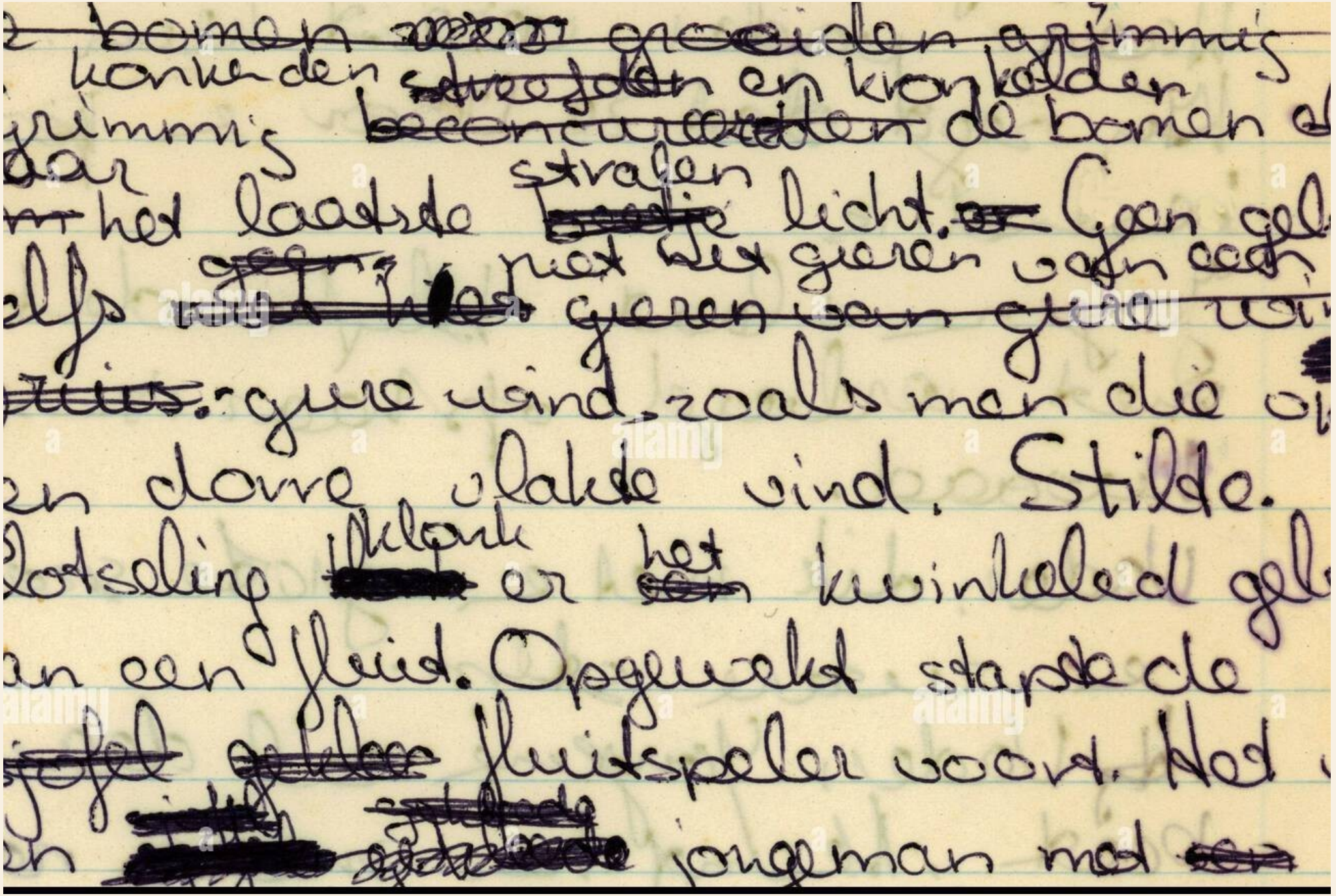
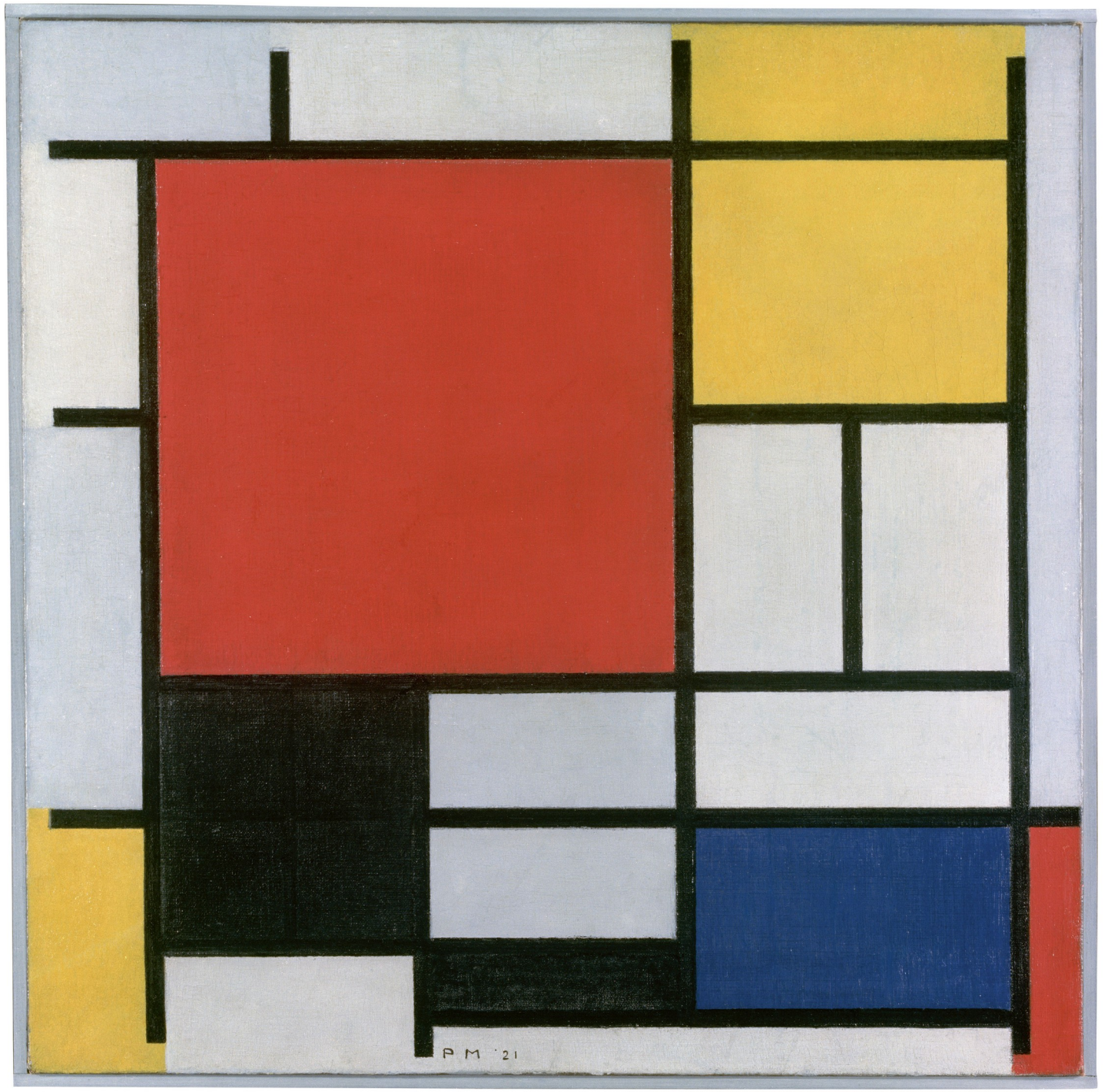
IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY,

HOWEVER, WHAT SOUNDS LIKE A REJECTION OF CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY



FRENCH PHILOSOPHER ALAIN

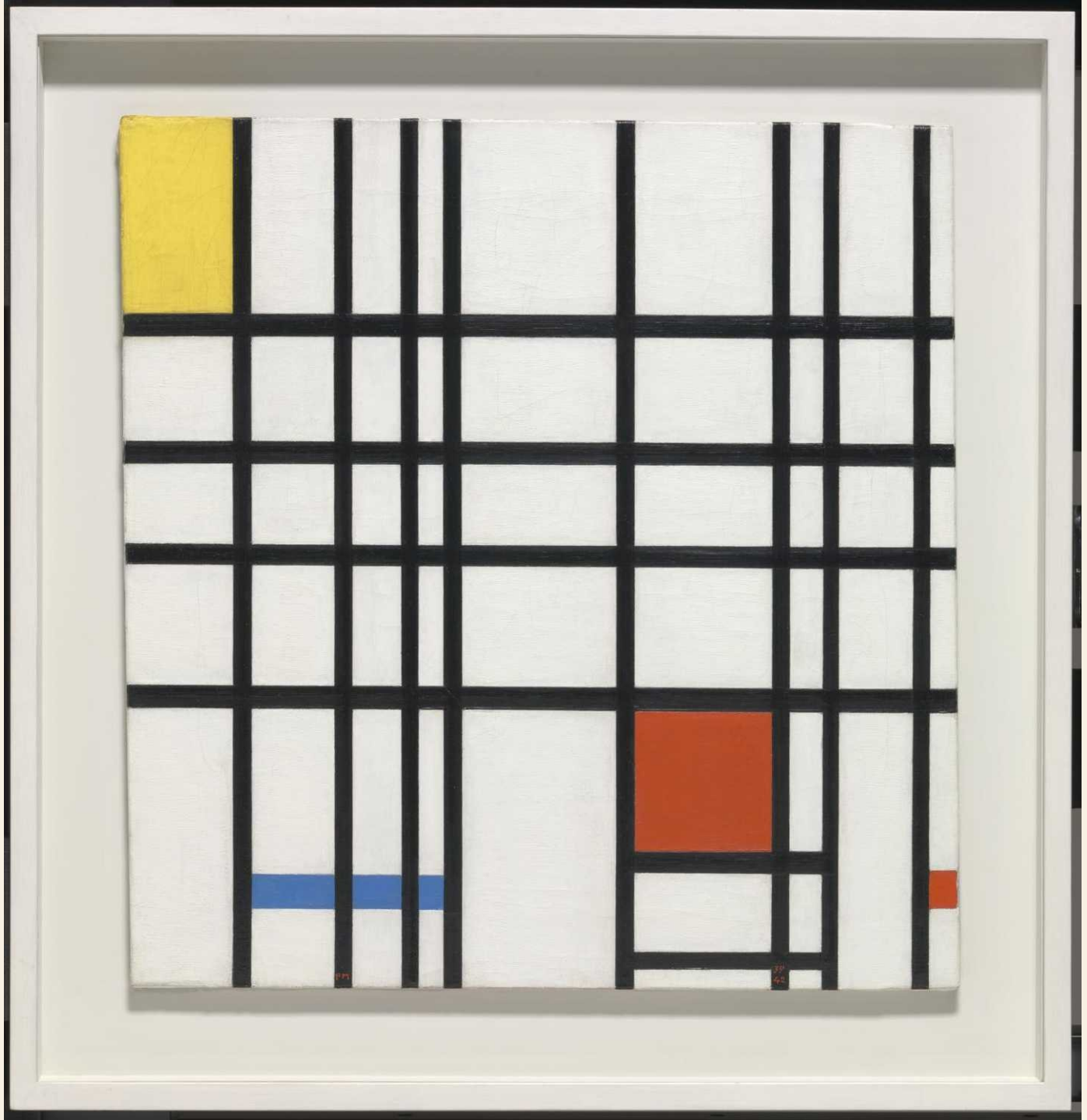
10



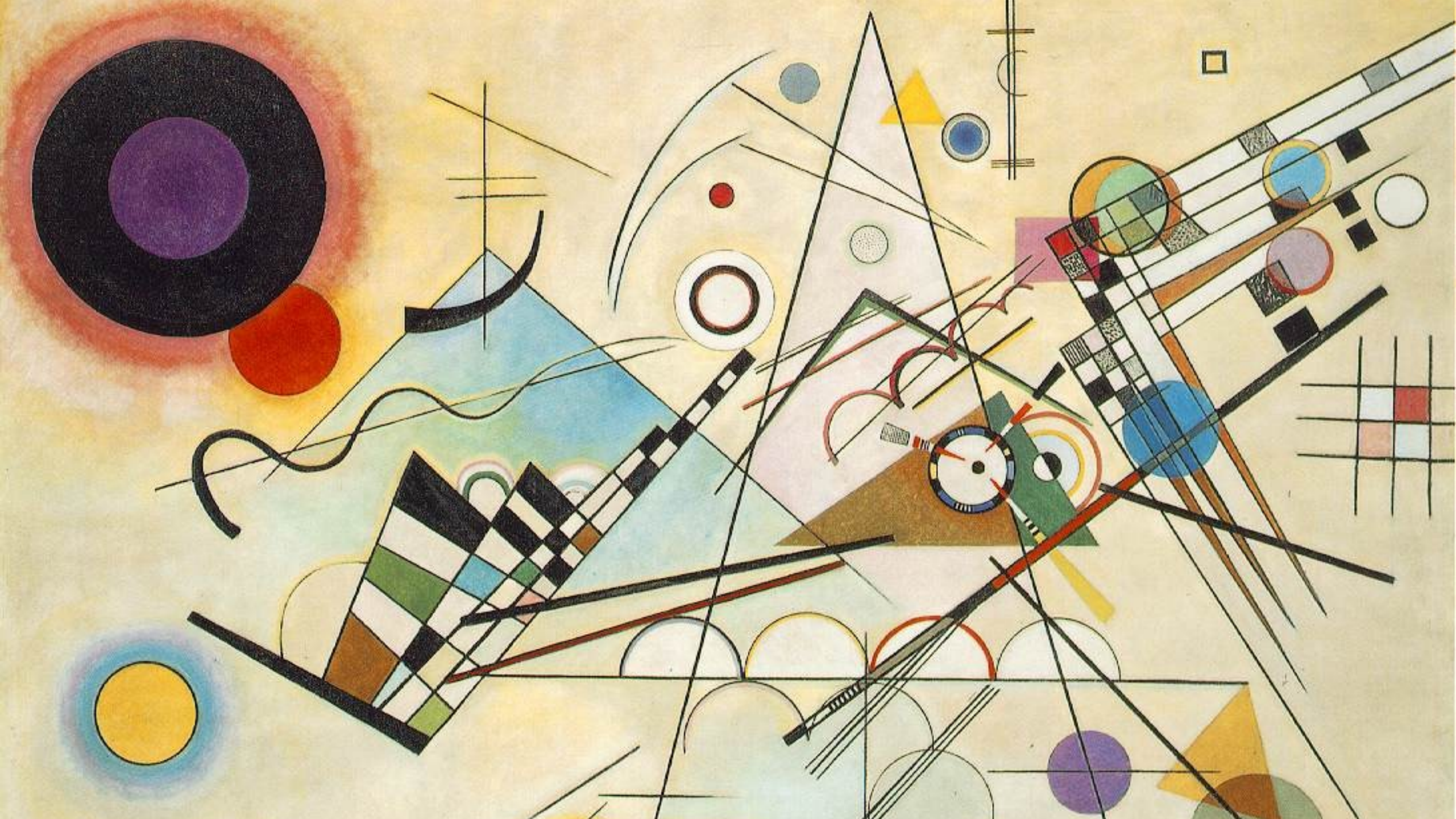
MONDRIAN

HABIT

11



Expression of Life and not expression of Space is important. Space is empty, life is full. Space-expression is or creates subjective feelings. Expression of life, vitality, dynamic movement, is universal. Form is space as well as empty space. Thus form, volume, plane and line must be destroyed and not expressed. This is required for the work as a whole and for its composing elements. Only then the constructive elements can create a continual opposition that forms the dynamic rhythm of life. (Mondrian 1986: 385)



THE *SPACE* OF THE LINE

“do not describe the exterior aspects of the world but that they grasp the internal principles structuring all things and link them to other things” (Sers: xxxiv).

THE LATTER STATEMENT

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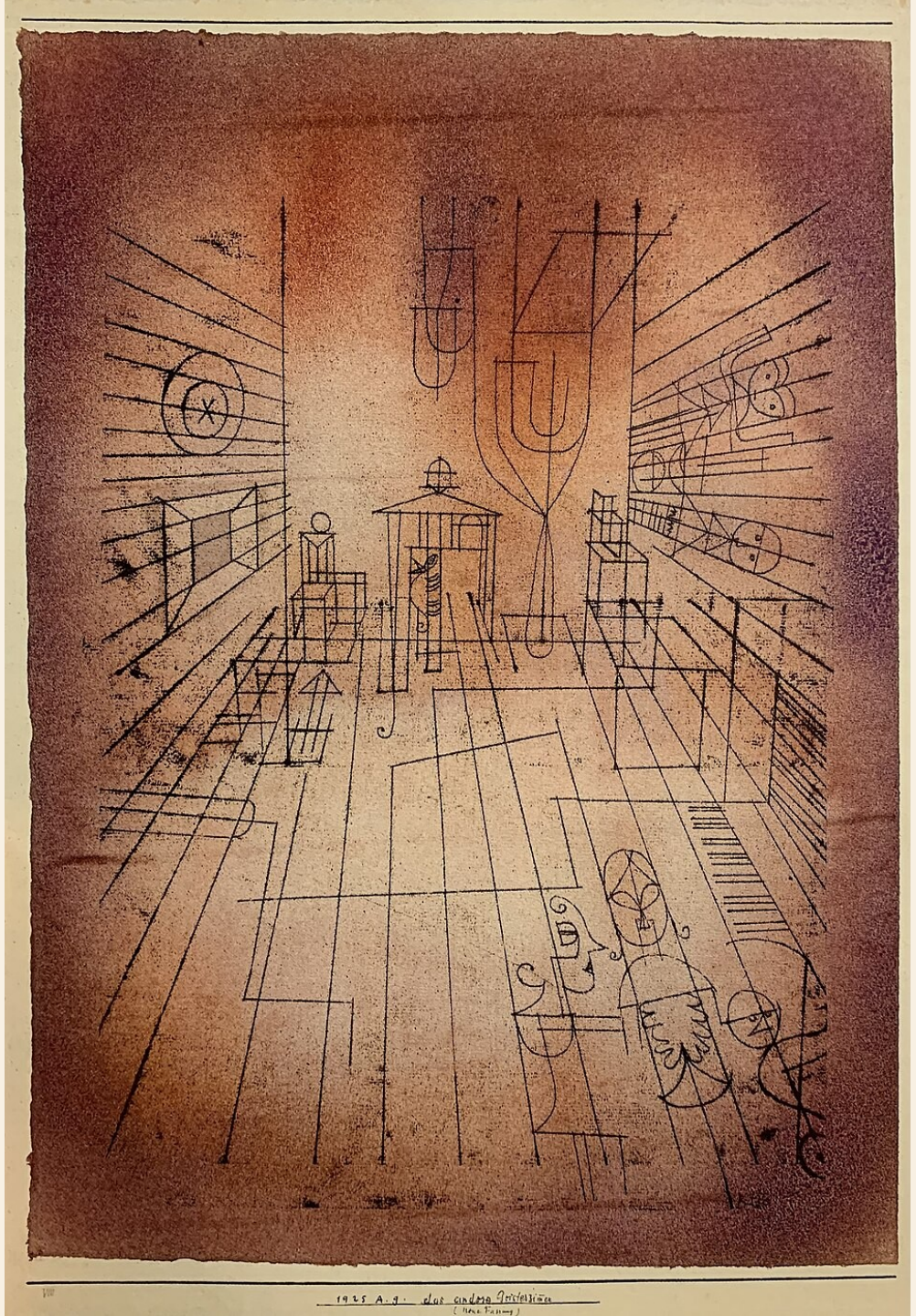

Paul Klee
Chambre habitée

PAUL KLEE (1879–1940)

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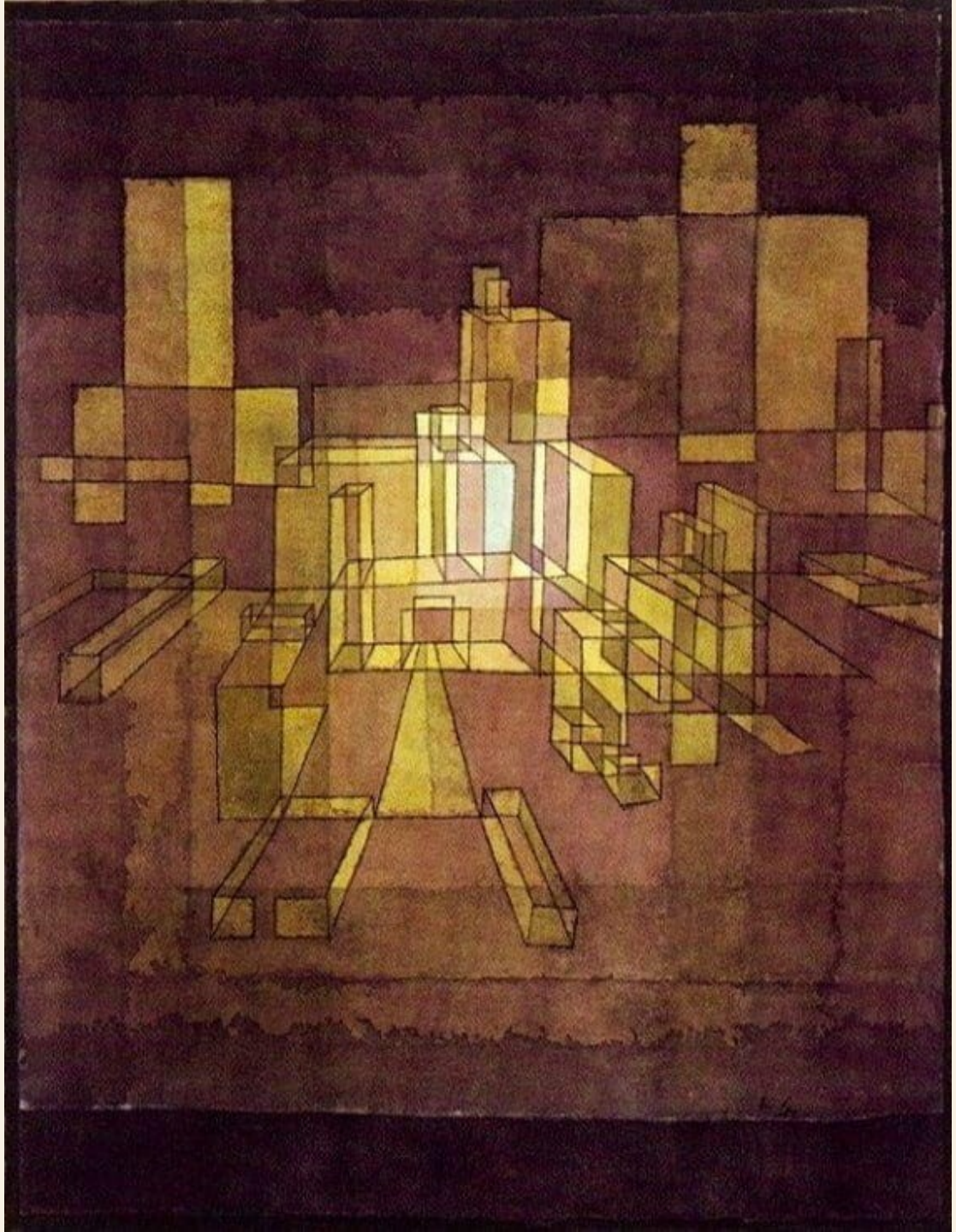
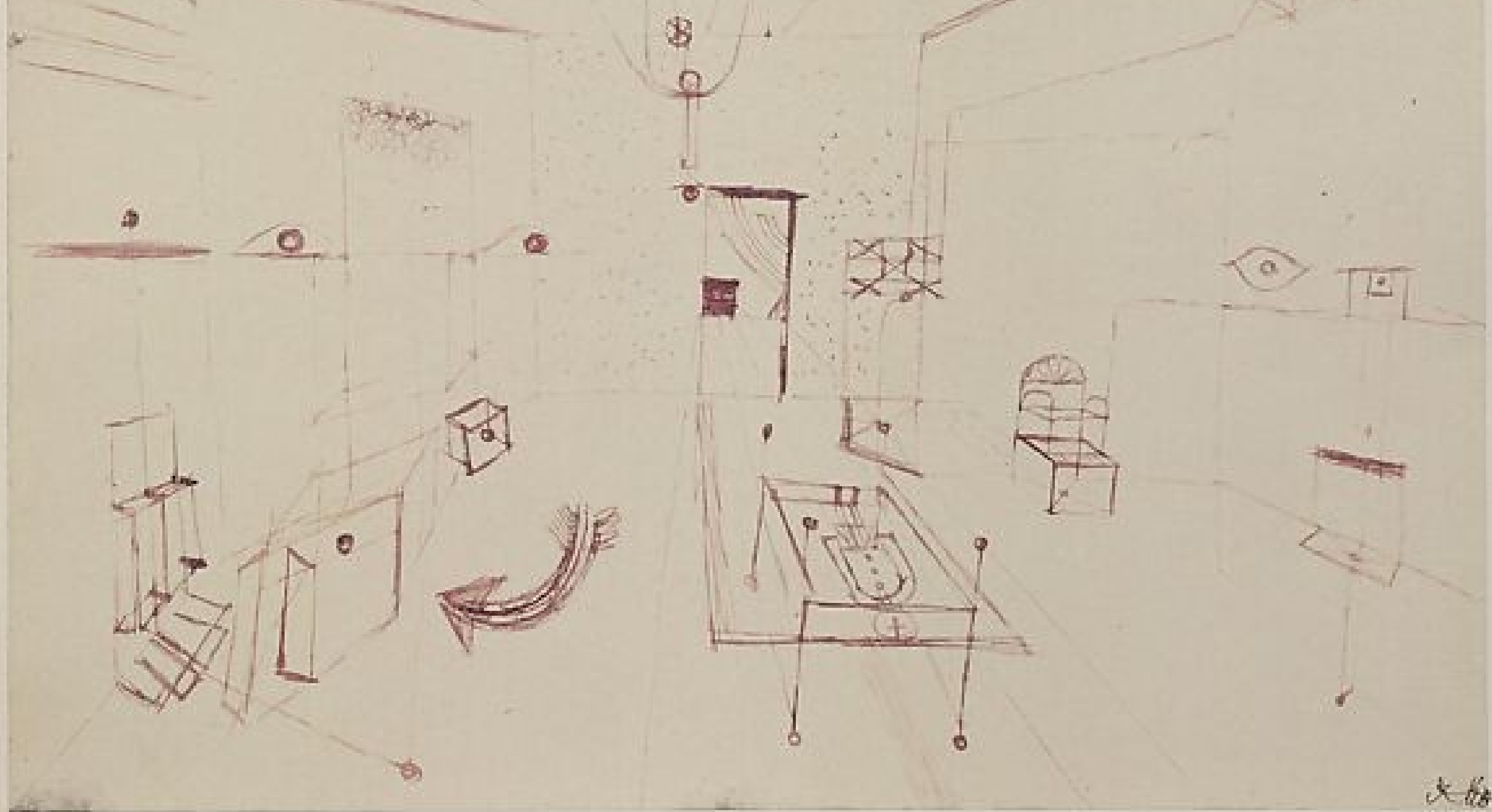
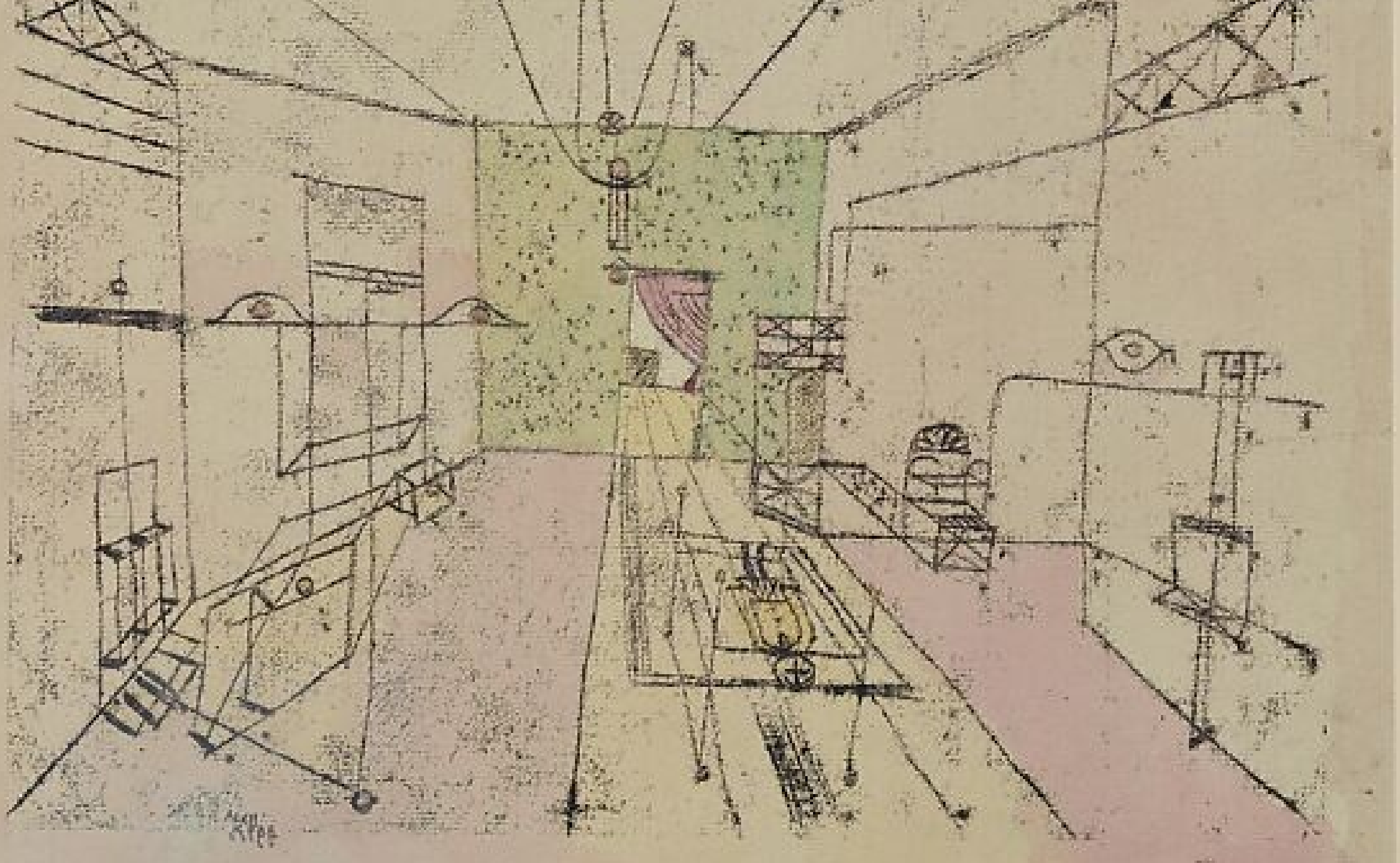


Line is the most limited, being solely a matter of simple measure. Its properties are length (long or short), angles (obtuse or acute), length of radius and focal distance. All are quantities subject to measurement. Measure is the characteristic of this element. Where the possibility of measurement is in doubt, line cannot have been handled with absolute purity.

“Jenaer Rede” from 1924 (*Über die Moderne*



1920/189 Perspective – Space (Ca. 1920/1924)

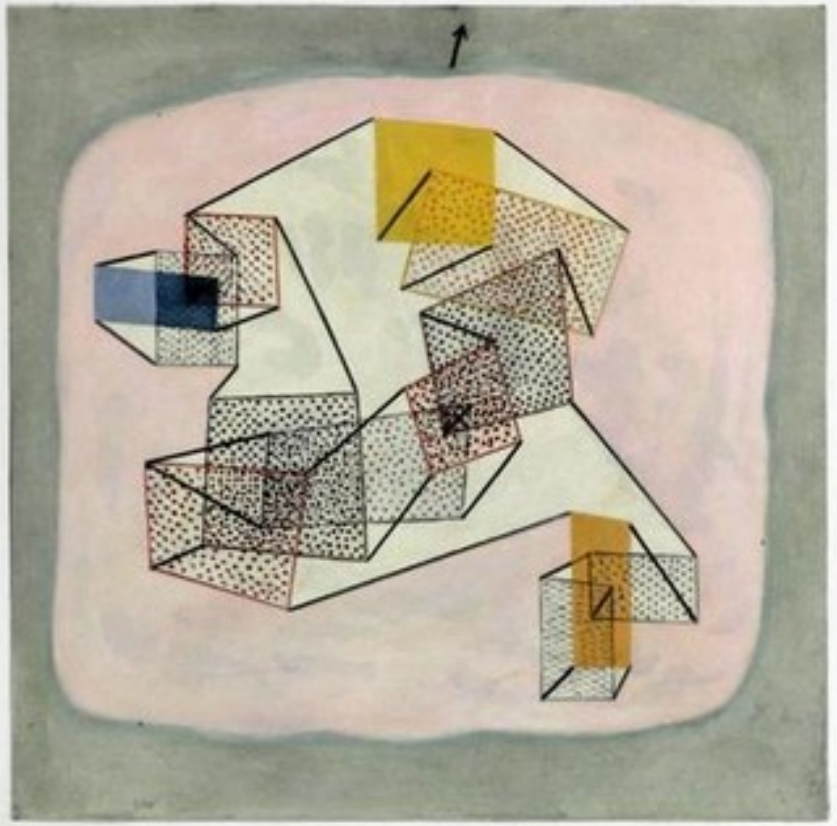


IN CHAMBRE HABITÉE, VUE PERSPECTIVE (1929),

18

ESCHER

19



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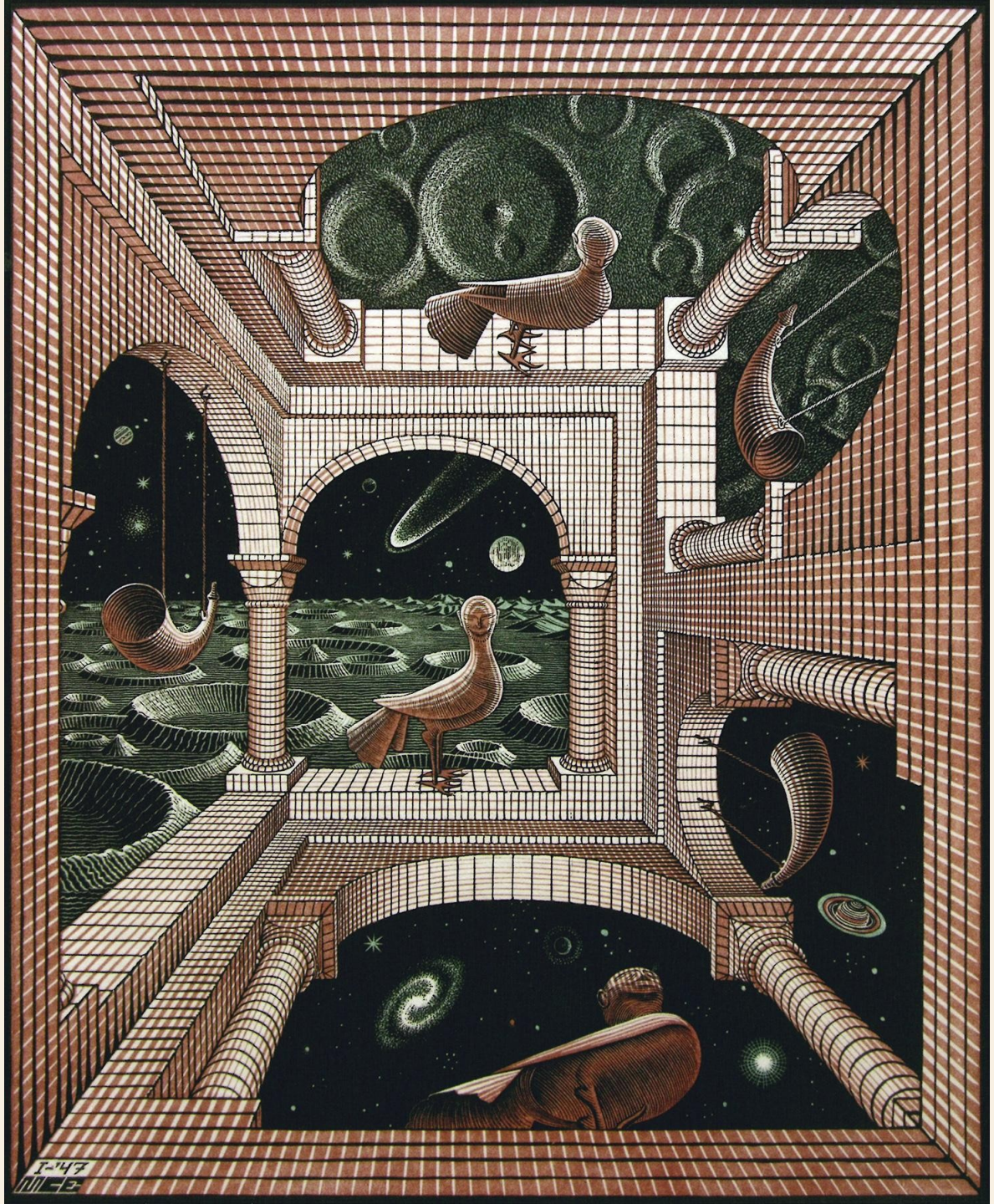

Escher

PIRANISI

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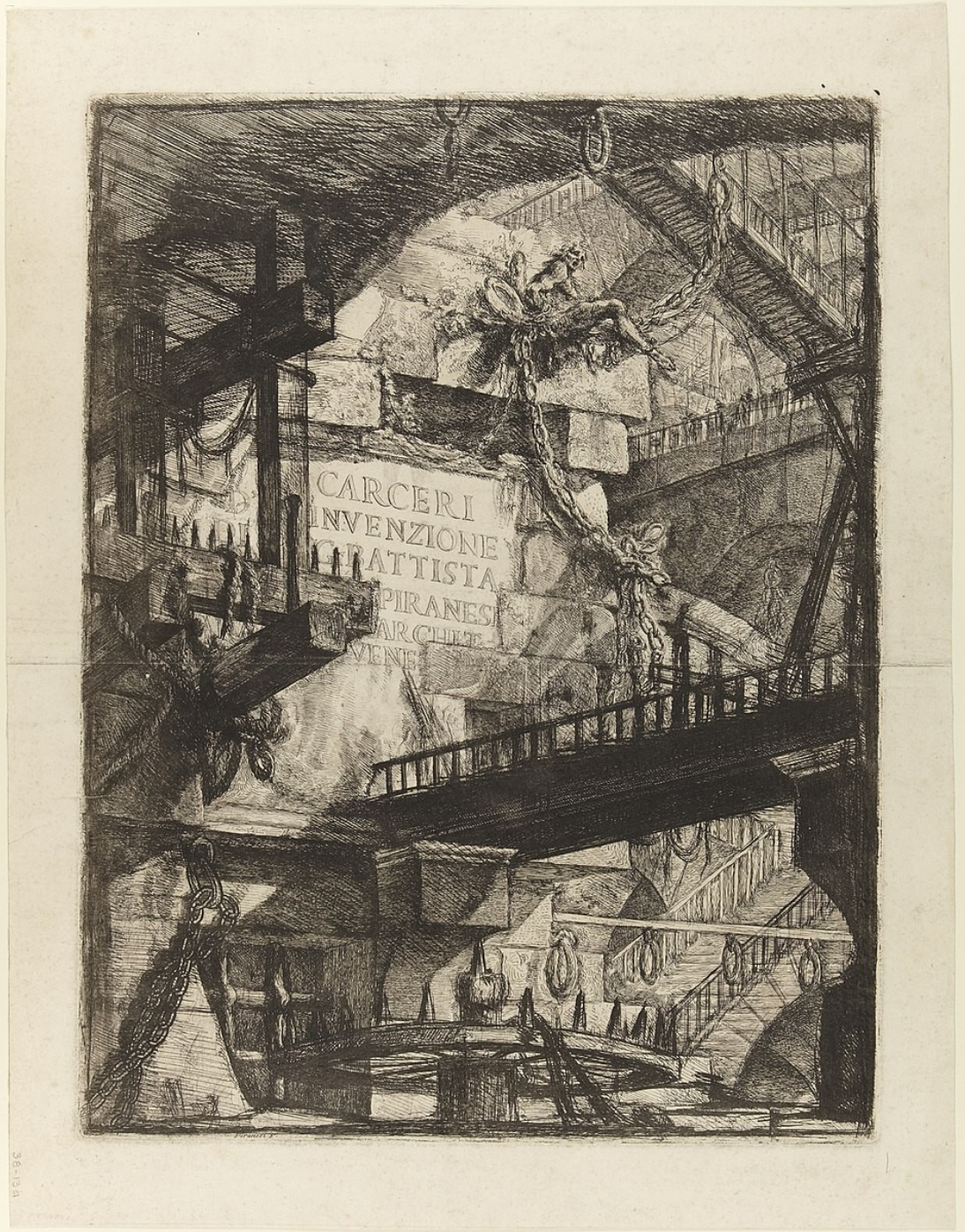
CARCERI
INVENZIONE
GIOVANNI BATTISTA
PIRANESI
ARCHITETTO
VENEZIANO

Piranesi

WESTERN CULTURE

THANK YOU

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